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**Borough of Warwick,**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1960

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

**Warwickshire Combined Districts**

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Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1962



38, HOLLY WALK,  
LEAMINGTON SPA.  
November 17th, 1961.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF  
WARWICK

Mr. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to report to you upon the health of the district for 1960.

Last year's fall in population was recovered but there was again only a small excess of births over deaths. Thus Warwick has increased by less than 500 since 1951.

*Housing.*—A summary of the position as regards re-housing and applications for tenancies is given in the body of the report. New clearance areas were declared as follows :—

Parkes Street    Odd numbers, Nos. 35 to 43 and 65 to 67  
   inclusive.

Parkes Street    Even numbers, Nos. 10 to 74 (excluding  
   68).

Watts Terrace    Nos. 1—6 inclusive.

Friars Street    Odd numbers, Nos. 75 to 85.

*Caravans.*—The Chief Public Health Inspector was designated as the appropriate officer in connection with administration of the Caravan Sites Act, 1960. Three applications for site licences were received ; one was recommended for refusal by the Planning authority and two were granted until 31st December, 1961, viz :—

R. Wright    Leam House, Myton Road.

16 caravans. Renewal subject to  
conditions regarding drainage im-  
provement.

K. H. Gray    Wharf Street Garage (rear of).

One caravan.

*Clean Air.*—The Headmaster of the Oken High School kindly offered to house and operate a volumetric apparatus, deposit gauge and lead peroxide candle. Improvements to the Emscote Foundry were completed by Messrs. T. Potterton.

*Water.*—A large number of bursts again occurred in defective mains or service pipes. Many of these were old and in bad condition. Agreement was reached with Leamington Corporation in the sum of £200 to settle the claim in regard to Warwick's earlier withdrawal from a joint scheme to abstract water from the River Leam and impound it in a new reservoir.

In June it was necessary to impose some restrictions on the use of the public water supply. The help of the Leamington undertaking was extended in regard to cross connections between town mains at Portobello bridge and Myton Road. Approval was given in principle to proposals :

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| (a) to deepen and clear Inchford Brook ... ..  | (£1,126) |
| (b) to provide apparatus for superchlorination of incoming water with dechlorination plant and automatic flow control ... .. | (£4,000) |

It was suggested by the Ministry that these works should be deferred pending the operation of the new Joint Water Board. This, however, has taken longer to form than expected. The record of intermittent pollution of Haseley water by human excrement goes back over many years and consumers deserve better protection than has yet been provided. The new Board will find many problems awaiting its inception and cannot be expected to solve them all immediately. Therefore, unless there is known to be a clear intention to give up the gathering ground as a water source in the near future, the case for installing new equipment, as recommended to the Council by its Water Engineer seems to be unassailable and urgent.

*Food and Drugs.*—The Council has improved catering facilities at its own racecourse. A large number of visits were made by your health inspectors to food premises but it must be recorded with regret that continual pressure of other duties upon your small staff has led to routine and follow-up visits being made less frequently than is desirable or necessary. It is hoped that some way will soon be found to reintroduce the systematic and routine inspections of premises and the reinspections following service of notices which have lapsed for several years during a period of severe overloading of the department.

The Council has been keenly interested in all aspects of the department's duties and I much appreciate their kindness and courtesy at all times. Once again it is to be recorded with pleasure and gratitude how friendly and helpful have been all the officers with whom my work has brought me into contact. Especially, I wish to thank Mr. Bullock and all his staff for their many kindnesses.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.



	1960
Population (estimated) Mid-years ... ..	16,010
Area 5,057 acres	
Rateable Value ... ..	£261,269
Product of 1d. rate ... ..	£1,045
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude) ... ..	13.9
" " " " " (corrected) ... ..	13.7
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births ... ..	17.6
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude) ... ..	10.1
" " " " " (corrected) ... ..	10.4
Deaths from Diseases and } From Sepsis ... ..	—
Accidents of Pregnancy and } " Other Causes ... ..	—
Child-birth	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	18.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	19.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..	—
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	—
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	—

*Population.*—There was a gain of 140 in 1960. The excess of births over deaths was only 61.

*Birth Rate.*—This was again low compared with neighbouring districts.

*Death Rate.*—There was a slight fall as compared with 1959.

Statistics for the past nine years and also for England and Wales in 1960 will be seen under Table II.

Cert. R.S.I. for Smoke Inspectors.

*Borough Engineer, Surveyor and Water Engineer :*

H. S. BROWN, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., Chartered Civil Engineer (Retired 31st March, 1960).

C. E. BROWN (Appointed June 1960).

*Assistant Housing Inspector :*

Mr. H. D. NASH.

*Housing Assistant :*

Mr. D. A. KENT (as from 1st April, 1960).

*Clerical Staff :*

Mrs. O. JAMES, Clerk/Typist ; Miss P. KEAN.

*General Handyman and Rodent Operator :*

Mr. T. FIELD.

*Public analysts :*

BOSTOCK, HILL and RIGBY, Birmingham.

### **LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES (WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)**

*Infant Welfare Centres (as at June 30th, 1961) :*

Lakin Road F.A.P.	...	Wednesdays	2—4 p.m.
		Tuesdays	2—4 p.m.
Racecourse	... ..	Thursdays	2—4 p.m.

Local enquiries re Home Help, After-care, Health Visiting, Domiciliary Nursing and Midwifery Services to Area Health Office, 38, Holly Walk, Leamington Spa ('Phone 2998 or 2999).

*National Welfare Foods* are on sale at Child Welfare Sessions or from :—

*W. V.S. Office :* 3, Jury Street, Warwick.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday	...	Afternoons
Thursday, Saturday	... ..	Morning

Mrs. BULL, 51, Stratford Road, Warwick.

Monday 2—3-30 p.m. ; Thursday 5—6-30 p.m.

*Ambulance.*—The Depot is at Lakin Road F.A.P. (Tel. Warwick 86). 24-hour service.

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT**

I am indebted to Mr. C. E. Brown, the Borough Engineer, for much of the following information :—

*Water Supply.*—Throughout the year water supplies from Haseley, were augmented by bulk purchase from the Warwick Rural District Council's boreholes. During peak periods, in



order to maintain supplies and pressures, further supplies were purchased from the Leamington Corporation supply and delivered into the Eastern part of the town. This and the laying of new connecting mains (especially that in Coventry Road) has very considerably improved the overall supplies to properties.

*Drainage and Sewerage.*—All sewers functioned satisfactorily during the year. Major cleansing works and rebuilding of manholes on the final length of the Low Level Sewer, together with thorough cleansing of the sewer under the River Avon, has ensured a more satisfactory delivery to the Sewage Works.

*Sewage Disposal.*—A satisfactory effluent has been maintained, but there is some evidence of a general overloading of the works.

*Refuse Removal and Disposal.*—A satisfactory collection has, in general, been maintained, although after holiday periods some difficulty has arisen.

*Housing.*—The development of the western portion of the Percy Estate has continued and, with various other estates being developed privately, a large increase of privately owned houses has been indicated. Further municipal building has continued with the central area of the Percy Estate, Saltisford Common (for old people) and the two redevelopment centres in the East End (Chapman Street) and the West End (Monk Street).

*Swimming Baths and Paddling Pool.*—The new open air Swimming Pool has undoubtedly added to the amenities of St. Nicholas' Park and to the outdoor recreation of the public.

The old open-air baths were closed in 1955 as being beyond repair and the Borough was without facilities for public swimming until the opening of the new open air baths in June, 1960. These are also situated in Saint Nicholas' Park but further from the river bank than the old baths. Soon after commissioning it was necessary to close down briefly in order to repair a defect in the plastic skin lining. Towels and costumes are available for hire by bathers. Fuller details are as follows :—

Length	110 feet	Depth (shallow end)	3 feet
Breadth	36 feet	(deep end)	7 feet 6 inches
Capacity :	135,000 gallons.		

Dressing accommodation : Ladies 11 cubicles ; gentlemen 12 cubicles.

Source of water : Corporation mains.

Method of Treatment : Diatomaceous earth filters.

Soda Ash for removal of permanent hardness.

Chlorine for sterilization.

Frequency of water change : Complete change of water every six hours.

The automatic chlorination plant was carefully controlled.

Bacteriological examinations are made periodically. Samples are collected by the Public Health Inspectors and tested at the Public Health Laboratory in Coventry. Results have been satisfactory.

Tests were also made periodically of the Paddling Pool. On a few occasions results were not satisfactory and action was taken by the Chief Public Health Inspector to rectify matters.

#### **D. HOUSING**

During the year 47 new units of housing were provided by the council as follows :—

Percy Estate	18 2 BR flats
West End area	13 (3 flats, 10 maisonettes)
Kipling Avenue	2 (1 BR flats)
Linen Street	14 (6 flats, 8 O.A.P.'s dwellings)

In addition 42 vacancies arose in existing houses. Thus in all 73 families, comprising 269 persons, were rehoused excluding 19 transfers and one exchange of tenancy. Property acquired by the Council for patching and temporary retention housed 9 families and accommodation was found for three members of the staff not included in the above figures. Of the 73 families housed, 30 were taken by reason of demolition or closing orders, 16 from clearance areas, 10 from rooms and 8 from outside the borough. Thus only 9 families within the borough were accommodated from houses not the subject of statutory action under the Housing Acts, and only 2 tenancies were granted upon medical recommendation. Medical recommendations are governed by general directions laid down by the committee some time ago which strictly limit this type of allocation to only 3 per cent. or 4 per cent. of all allocations. Health purposes are, however, perhaps better served by concentration upon sweeping away the excess of slum property or worn out houses than by attempts to



single out a few families on special grounds from so large a list. Your register showed at the year's end 440 applicants desirous of becoming council tenants and 81 others still to be rehoused from condemned property. Of the total 186 were from people in rooms or without houses and 254 from people in houses, most of which were sub-standard. A study of family composition showed that houses rather than flats are required and that 150 houses will have to be built for the next five years to keep pace with local need.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 (SECTION 31)

*Tuberculosis Milk Investigations.*—Routine milk samples were taken by authorised officers of the County Council within the Borough and sent for biological examination. Results were obtained from samples taken as follows:—

<i>Designation of Milk</i>	<i>Total No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
	<i>of Samples</i>	<i>Positive</i>
	1960	1960
Pasteurised ... ..	4	Nil
“ Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ” ...	—	Nil
“ Tuberculin Tested ” ... ..	4	Nil
Non-designated ... ..	—	Nil

This information has been given by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

#### *Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1952*

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1952	...	—	7	—	3	3	11
1953	...	—	7	—	6	6	10
1954	...	—	7	—	8	1	15
1955	...	—	7	—	5	—	10
1956	...	—	5	1	9	—	10
1957	...	—	6	—	20	8	8
1958	...	—	12	—	9	1	—
1959	...	—	28	—	10	—	—
1960	...	—	13	—	5	—	—

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the notifications for 1960.

*Scarlet Fever.*—The number of notifications was low and it was unnecessary to remove any patient to hospital.

*Other diseases.*—This was a year when Measles notifications were few but 33 notifications of Whooping Cough were received. Of these some 60 per cent. affected those aged five years or more and it may be that the better experience of infants owes something to the improved antigenic power of the vaccines now on the market. It may well be that some of the older immunized children received injections of a vaccine less potent than that being now given.

### *Vaccination and Immunization*

It is no longer possible to give figures for single Sanitary Districts but there was a panic rush by adults for inoculation after several paralytic cases were reported in Leamington Spa in October, 1960. This led to a great increase in demand and several special sessions were held. The Caravan Health Clinic was used for these in the Market Square and kept open all day with staff working in shifts. Facilities were kindly made available in Shire Hall offices nearby.

*B.C.G. Vaccination (Tuberculosis).*—If a child or young person has made close personal contact with a declared sufferer from tuberculosis of the lungs he or she may also contract the infection in an active form. Therefore, the investigation of contacts of known cases includes tuberculin sensitivity tests. If a strong positive reaction occurs clinical and/or X-ray examinations will decide if active infection exists. A number of those tested will not have had any previous contact with this disease and so will not react at all to the tests. They do not possess a natural immunity to the disease and might run great risks from contact with an infected adult. They are, therefore, offered inoculation with B.C.G. Vaccine, that is to say a live vaccine made from tuberculosis bacilli which have been cultured in a special way so as to reduce greatly their virulence. This process of immunisation takes several weeks to mature and complications are rare. In addition to contacts the vaccine may be given to two other groups :—

- (i) In Central Warwickshire children in their 13th year are offered vaccination if negative reactors to a skin test (Heaf Test).
- (ii) Special risk workers, e.g. medical students, hospital nurses, etc.

The local district figures are now merged in those for the whole area.

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY

JULY, 1960

MINIATURE FILM EXAMINATIONS				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a)	Organised Groups	...	...	2,159	824	2,983
(b)	General Public	...	...	536	844	1,380
				2,695	1,698	4,363

RECALLED FOR LARGE FILM  
EXAMINATION

(a)	Organised Groups	...	...	78	11	89
(b)	General Public	...	...	13	23	36
				91	34	125

RESULTS OF LARGE FILM  
EXAMINATIONS

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a)	<i>Organised Groups</i>					
	1.	No abnormality	... ..	20	4	24
	2.	Minor abnormality requiring no further investigation	... ..	23	4	27
	3.	Abnormality investigated clinically	... ..	28	3	31
	4.	Failed to attend for large film		7	—	7
				78	11	89
(b)	<i>General Public</i>					
	1.	No abnormality	... ..	2	11	13
	2.	Minor abnormality requiring no further investigation	... ..	6	7	13
	3.	Abnormality investigated clinically	... ..	5	5	10
				13	23	36



ANALYSIS OF CLINICAL  
EXAMINATIONS*Male Female Total**(a) Organised Groups*1. *Referred to Chest Clinic or  
Hospital*

(i) Suspected active pulmonary tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	1
(ii) Other new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis ... ..	1	1	2
(iii) Pulmonary tuberculosis—previously known ... ..	3	1	4
(iv) Bronchiectasis ... ..	2	—	2
(v) Spontaneous pneumothorax	—	1	1
(vi) Cardiac abnormalities ... ..	1	—	1
(vii) Other chest conditions of uncertain etiology ... ..	4	—	4
	12	3	15

*Male Female Total*2. *Referred to own Doctor*

(i) Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis ... ..	4	—	4
(ii) Bronchiectasis ... ..	1	—	1
(iii) Cardiac abnormality ... ..	1	—	1
(iv) Inflammatory lesion ... ..	1	—	1
(v) Non tuberculous, pulmonary fibrosis ... ..	4	—	4
(vi) Other chest conditions ... ..	1	—	1
	12	—	12

3. *No further action considered  
necessary*

(i) Inactive pulmonary tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	1
(ii) Bronchiectasis ... ..	1	—	1
(iii) Non tuberculous pulmonary fibrosis ... ..	2	—	2
	4	—	4

(b) *General Public*1. *Referred to Chest Clinic or Hospital*

(i) Pulmonary tuberculosis—			
previously known ...	1	—	1
(ii) Other chest conditions of			
uncertain etiology ...	1	2	3
	<hr/>		
	2	2	4
	<hr/>		

2. *Referred to own Doctor*

(i) Inactive pulmonary tuber-			
culosis ... ..	1	1	2
(ii) Abnormality of diaphragm	—	1	1
(iii) Cardiac abnormality ...	—	1	1
(iv) Non tuberculous pulmon-			
ary fibrosis ... ..	2	—	2
	<hr/>		
	3	3	6
	<hr/>		

A miniature X-Ray public survey was carried out this year. The large scale public survey in 1957 gave proportionately better attendances. Nevertheless the results justified the efforts made in organisation. Thanks are due to those who volunteered in response to the Mayor's appeal to aid in the publicity campaign.

Although there was one death this year from tuberculosis of the lungs, after two previous years without such an event, the number of notified cases was less than half the average of recent years. In fact, one can find only one year—and that as far away as 1943—in the past two decades when so few cases of tuberculosis have been notified. However, in that year there were more deaths from this than notified cases and in 1942 twelve notifications had to be set against a total death roll of ten. Evidently the various measures taken have enabled us to get to closer grips with this serious and old enemy of community life.

The reports of the County Medical Officer of Health have in the past shown Warwick as having one of the worst Tuberculosis records among Warwickshire boroughs. Satisfaction is perhaps justifiable when an annual death roll of ten or more has so dwindled that only two deaths have occurred in the past four years. The Council may well be

proud of its own record both in priority rehousing of tuberculosis sufferers and in the field of slum clearance generally. Further progress in this direction is your current policy, one which should reinforce improvements in nutrition and medical treatment and help to check the spread of this and other communicable diseases.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1960

Age Periods	New Cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	6	2	2	1	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

*Tuberculosis.*—The following table gives the incidence of Tuberculosis for the period 1940-1960 :—

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Cases ...	27	22	12	11	38	29	20
Deaths	9	13	10	13	11	12	9
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Cases ...	31	20	20	21	22	32	40
Deaths	8	14	6	6	8	1	3
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Cases ...	24	28	23	27	20	22	11
Deaths	3	5	3	1	—	—	1

4 patients were admitted to Sanatorium and 7 patients discharged during the year. There is now no problem of notified patients having to wait for admission to hospital.



## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 of this Act provides that where persons—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, and the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction, for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place, e.g. hospital. Seven days clear notice must be given to the person concerned of the intended application and it must also be given to the person managing the premises or institution. The order, if granted, may authorize a person's detention for a period not exceeding three months at the place specified in the Court's order.

Three cases were under investigation during 1960.

*Case 1.*—Mrs. Q—— (76). This old lady was admitted to a hospital for treatment of injuries received when knocked down by a car. It was alleged by relatives that her home was in a terrible state of filth and that she was addicted to the immoderate use of alcohol and did not devote to herself proper care and attention.

Enquiries did not confirm that matters were in fact as bad as had been alleged. Her condition did not warrant a longer stay in hospital. No immediate vacancy existed in Part III welfare accommodation nor was the lady minded to apply for that type of care. It was, therefore, made clear to the relatives that this was a case where they might be expected to arrange for the cleaning of premises and for necessary help, being in a position financially to assist in this way.

*Case 2.*—Mr. S—— (84). This elderly widower came first under notice some years previously at which time he was living in a small back kitchen of a condemned dwelling occupied by his son and daughter-in-law. The latter were themselves a "social problem family" and the marriage later disintegrated. After the daughter-in-law and her children had been rehoused, the old man remained by himself. He received meals on wheels but care generally was insufficient.

He was very attached to an old dog and refused to part from him. After twelve months the dog died naturally and the old man was persuaded to visit Lakin House, Warwick. Once there he found the surroundings congenial and decided to stay there permanently.

*Case 3.*—Mrs. M. S—— (66). Early on 26th October, 1960, the M.O.H. was called in by this patient's doctors. She was incontinent and had heart failure, gangrene of the feet and enormous bed sores destroying much of the left buttock and exposing the hip joint. Details were submitted to a single magistrate as required by Section I (i) of the National Assistance Act, 1951 for removal of persons in urgent need.

The order was granted and the patient was taken the same afternoon by ambulance to hospital where she died on 5th November, 1960. It was remarkable that advice was not sought sooner in view of the serious character of her illness and the probable pain caused by so much destruction of soft tissues. Few doctors will have found a patient in so bad a condition at their first visit. A probable explanation is that she had also a disease of the nervous system which dulled the normal awareness of pain.

## REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## To the Council of the Borough of Warwick

Mr. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting a report upon the work of my department during the year ended 31st December, 1960.

Inspections for the purposes of the Housing Act again occupied most of the time as, although the number of houses represented for demolition action in the year under review was smaller than in the previous year, a great deal of preliminary work was undertaken preparatory to formal action later. This was in furtherance of the Council's 10 year programme, then in its sixth year, to clear away unfit houses not capable of being made fit at a reasonable expense. Apart from procedure relating to completely unfit property, house-to-house inspections were continued at an increased rate. The object of these inspections is threefold, first to see that defects needing immediate attention are remedied, secondly to ensure timely maintenance to prevent deterioration of the structures, and thirdly to encourage the modernisation of houses not equipped with bathrooms and other facilities expected in a modern house.

Inspections and visits for the purposes of the Selection of Tenants Sub-committee were again combined with statutory housing duties. As has been observed in previous years, the advantages of combining these two divisions of housing work were particularly noticeable when rehousing from unfit property to municipal houses took place.

## HOUSING

## SLUM CLEARANCE

The following summary shows the progress made since 1945 in clearing unfit houses :—

		<i>From 1945 to 1955</i>							
<i>Houses demolished</i>		<i>(incl.)</i>	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	<i>Total</i>	
Individual Demolition									
Orders ...	...	75	13	12	14	35	18	167	
In Clearance Areas	...	3	19	15	21	12	20	90	
		78	32	27	35	47	38	257	

Under the demolition order provisions of the Housing Act, 1957, for individual houses, 7 houses were represented for action. In respect of these 3 demolition orders and 2 closing orders were made and 2 undertakings that the houses concerned would not be re-occupied were accepted.

The Market Street and Bowling Green Street Compulsory Purchase Order, comprising 19 houses, was confirmed during the year and action in respect of another small compulsory purchase order, West End No. 3, comprising 6 houses was commenced.

Actual demolition of houses in clearance areas or subject to individual demolition orders, proceeded slowly during 1960, and at the end of the year there were 168 houses vacated but not demolished. This delay in demolition was due in many cases to the fact that odd houses here and there were still occupied and prevented demolition of a row and, in the case of the East End Clearance Area, to the temporary



retention of the vacated dwellings to provide rubble later for raising the road levels for the re-development which had not commenced at the end of the year.

The 6 houses comprised in the West End No. 2 Area were demolished and this probably afforded greater satisfaction than any Housing Act achievement in recent years as at long last a disreputable common lodging house which had occupied the close attention of the department for generations disappeared.

From the above it will be seen that 425 unfit houses had been vacated since 1945 and, of these, 257 had been demolished and 168 awaited demolition at the end of 1960.

#### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Improvement Grants made in respect of privately-owned property for the provision of bathrooms, internal sanitary accommodation, hot water facilities, food storage and other improvements for which grants can be made continued to make a noticeable contribution to the raising of the standard of many of the older houses in the town. The Council's policy is particularly helpful in this function and is achieving very worthwhile results.

During 1960, 56 dwellings were modernised with the aid of grants, compared with 31 in the previous year; this brings the total to 196 since the inception of the scheme in 1954. At the end of 1960 work was in progress at a further 53 houses—an encouraging total.

Standard grants, involving fixed payments for the provision of standard amenities, usually at a lower cost than the discretionary grants, are now appearing in these totals; 10 houses were improved with the aid of these standard grants in 1960 and their average cost was £82. The overall average for both standard and discretionary grants remained at about £265 per house.

Improvement grants again assisted in the preservation of certain ancient timber-framed dwellings and it is increasingly noticeable that rows of property are taking on a new look, as opposed to individual houses, owners seeking improvements to their property having seen the effect on the adjoining property.

Work on the conversion of the ancient quarters at The Lord Leycester Hospital into 10 small dwellings with modern amenities, and the conversion of St. Ediths, All Saints, into 9 flats had shown good progress at the end of the year.

Under provisions similar to those applying to private owners substantial progress was made in modernising municipal houses built shortly after the first World War. The houses in the first stage of this programme comprise 248 in the Packmores area which were without proper means for a hot water supply and had completely outmoded bathrooms. By the end of the year 161 houses had been modernised to a good standard; 51 of these involved major alterations to bedroom accommodation in order to provide the bathroom.

#### HOUSING INSPECTIONS AND REPAIRS

Systematic house-to-house inspections for the purposes of Part IV of the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932, were continued during the year. At the close of the year 115 houses, mostly in the East Ward, had been so inspected. Comprehensive notices drawing attention separately to (a) matters calling for urgent attention, (b) defects requiring remedy in the interests of good maintenance and (c) lack of amenities, were served. As these notices are in the first place of an advisory nature, a fairly long interval is allowed before Statutory action



is recommended to enforce compliance. The amount of maintenance work undertaken was again encouraging, but any considerable increase in the issue of notices would outstrip the capacity for repair work locally.

### MUNICIPAL HOUSING

The following summary shows in respect of 1960 (a) new houses built by the authority, (b) families rehoused and (c) municipal dwellings owned by the local authority :—

New houses built	...	...	...	...	47
Families rehoused	...	...	...	...	73
Houses owned by the local authority (not including unfit houses acquired for demolition)	...	...	...	...	1,554
Percentage of houses owned to total houses in Borough	...	...	...	...	32%
Vacancies occurring in existing houses	...	...	...	...	42
Of the families rehoused there were :—					
From "rooms"	...	...	...	...	12
From poor and/or overcrowded houses not subject to Housing Act Orders	...	...	...	...	15
From houses subject to demolition orders or closing orders or from Clearance areas	...	...	...	...	46
Population rehoused	...	...	...	...	269
					(or 3.7 per family)
Families from serious medical considerations	...	...	...	...	2

Included in the above are 17 cases where the occupiers were old age pensioners, either as couples or living alone.

To promote the fullest use of municipal accommodation 20 exchanges were arranged.

In the 15 years since the end of 1945, 1,220 families, comprising 4,444 persons have been rehoused, but during the same period there have been 2,204 applications, 83 of these being registered during 1960. Though quite a number of applications are cancelled either at the request of the applicants or through failure to renew, the majority are found to be genuinely made and experience shows that three out of every four have eventually to be satisfied.

The rate of new applications was low compared with a few years ago, but, in view of the number of houses used for rehousing from condemned property, the rate of new building was insufficient to prevent a lengthening of the waiting period for most applicants.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

Two thousand, one hundred and seven inspections were made for the purposes of the Public Health Act. As in previous years, most of the 245 notices issued under the Public Health Act related to dwelling house defects of a general nature and were limited to urgent matters. In nine cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices.

### DRAINAGE, SANITARY ACCOMMODATION, WASHING ACCOMMODATION AND REFUSE RECEPTACLES

During the period 46 notices requiring choked drains to be cleared or defective drains to be repaired were complied with ; 31 notices re-

quiring repairs to water closets received attention ; 8 washhouses were rebuilt or repaired ; 4 dustbins were provided and 10 accumulations of refuse were removed.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSE

The last registered Common Lodging House in the Borough was vacated and demolished during the year.

#### VERMIN INFESTATIONS

*Rats and Mice.*—Systematic investigations to ascertain infestations were continued during the year. The department dealt with infestations, principally of a minor character, as follows :—

Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	...	147
Factories and Offices	...	...	...	...	31
Shops	...	...	...	...	8
Schools	...	...	...	...	6
Houses and Cafes	...	...	...	...	1
Clubs and licensed premises	...	...	...	...	1
Allotments and plots of land	...	...	...	...	92
Streams	...	...	...	...	40

In addition during the year visits were made to hospitals in the Borough on 5 occasions, to the cattle market 6 times and the Council's refuse tip and sewage disposal works were treated regularly.

*Bed bugs.*—Complaints of bed bugs were again small compared with a few years ago. Apart from issuing insecticides to applicants, the department treated 6 houses successfully.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT

Routine inspections and observations for the purposes of the Clean Air Act, 1956, continued throughout the year. Enforcement action centred largely on two factories. At one of these are three Lancashire boilers which have caused an increasing smoke nuisance due to inefficient and worn out automatic sprinkler stokers. The Company concerned had agreed to modernise this steam-raising plant at the end of the year. At the other factory new cupola plant and fettling processes continued to give rise to complaints from occupiers of houses in the vicinity. The new plant incorporating a modern dry grit arrester and high chimney had been in operation for some months and, although it had brought a great improvement in the extent of air pollution, teething troubles were still being experienced. Enforcement of the Clean Air Act in respect of processes at this latter factory now rests with the Alkali Works Inspectorate.

The scheme for new boiler house plant for Warwick Hospital did not progress during 1960, but, although the old and inefficient hand-fired Cornish boilers continued in use, a noticeable improvement in smoke control was effected.

The Percy Estate Smoke Control Order appeared to be observed very fully by most householders.

The Byelaw requiring all fireplaces in new houses to be of a type capable of burning smokeless fuels is in operation and an increasing number of people outside the Smoke Control Area now use smokeless fuels, either as the selected fuel or mixed with household coal. Renewals of firegrates in older property also raise the proportion of grates designed for smokeless fuels. Normally the firegrate chosen is excellent for its purpose, but all too often insufficient care is taken in fitting the



appliance with the result that serious air leaks reduce fuel efficiency and cause problems associated with fumes. Whenever possible the opportunity is taken to point out these faults at the time of fitting, but quite frequently they do not become apparent until the new appliance has been in use for some time.

#### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT PUBLIC HOUSES AND PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

The sanitary accommodation at the cinema and at licensed premises generally was found to be of good standard and well maintained. At four licensed premises the accommodation was improved after representations to the owners concerned.

#### CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

A total of 50 inspections during the year was made for the purposes of 268 and 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. At the end of 1960 seven licences permitting the stationing of caravans were in operation in the Borough.

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the year covered by the report, additional sanitary accommodation was provided at two factories, the existing accommodation was improved at 5 factories, ventilation, washing facilities and heating improvements were provided at one factory. At the end of 1960 the register included 120 factories, 94 having mechanical power, 16 without mechanical power and 10 others.

#### RAG FLOCK AND OTHER MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Regular inspections are made of the one premises registered in the Borough.

Some of the work requested during 1959 had been undertaken, but the owner and occupier are still being pressed to complete repairs at this property. Emphasis is on the sanitary accommodation, particularly for male employees.

#### SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspections and re-inspections of shops continued during 1960. The following improvements were made :— sanitary accommodation improved at six shops, improved washing facilities at six shops ; improved ventilation at two shops ; structural improvements at three shops. At the end of 1960, certificates of exemption from the necessity to provide sanitary accommodation were in operation at six shops.

#### TERMINAL DISINFECTION

Seventeen houses were disinfected following removal of patients to hospital or at the request of occupiers ; 3 lots of bedding were disinfected or destroyed.

" A total of 22 investigations were made following notifications of infectious disease.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

##### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The following make-up the current registers for 1960 :—

Milk distributors	...	...	...	...	20
Dairies other than farms	...	...	...	...	4



## INSPECTION OF FOOD AT RETAILERS' SHOPS

Visits made to food premises during the year under review were—482 to retail food shops ; 106 to premises used for food preparation ; 22 to ice cream premises and vehicles ; 3 to dairies ; 13 to bake-houses and 29 to the market stalls. Food found to be unfit for human consumption weighed 3 cwts. 2 qrs. 12 lbs.

Enforcement of the regulations and of the byelaws relating to the manufacture, preparation and storage or sale of foods has continued throughout the year, inspections having been made as frequently as possible.

In several instances owners or occupiers were called upon to carry out alterations and/or repairs.

As stated in the Annual Report for 1959, the attention of the Council had been drawn to the necessity for improved facilities for catering at Warwick Racecourse and improvements were commenced during the year.

Attention was directed to the need for stricter cleanliness at food premises and in 8 instances conditions were improved. Six traders were required to provide protection for food displayed in the open air, and several owners and other persons connected with the transport of meat and other foods were warned of the necessity to provide greater protection and to exercise stricter cleanliness. In all, 22 notices were issued and 24 were complied with.

The following is a summary of the principal improvements made during the year under review :—

*Restaurants, Cafes, Canteens and Snack Bars.*—New washing facilities at 6 ; improved sanitary accommodation at 3 ; other structural improvements at 4 ; improved equipment at 4 ; redecoration at 4.

*Butchers', Bakers and Confectioners' Shops.*—Two shops redecorated ; improved washing facilities at one.

*Wet fish and fried fish shops.*—Improved washing facilities at one ; two shops redecorated ; structural improvement at two ; improved equipment at one.

*Sugar Confectionery shops.*—New washing facilities at one ; one shop redecorated ; one improved sanitary accommodation.

*Hotels and Boarding houses.*—Improved washing facilities at one ; redecoration at one ; structural improvements at one ; improved equipment at one ; improved washing facilities at one.

*Market stalls and mobile canteens.*—These are inspected regularly, particular attention being given to the protection of foodstuffs. Canteens and foodstalls at Warwick Mop and the Racecourse were inspected. As in previous years vehicles and stalls were approved and, where necessary, enquiries were made to other local authorities concerning registrations, before any food vendor was allowed to trade at Warwick Mop.

*Ice Cream Premises and Vehicles.*—Four premises were registered in 1960 ; there were 64 premises in the Borough registered for the sale of ice cream by the end of 1960. Twenty inspections were made.

The vehicles and equipment of mobile vendors were subject to inspection. Four notices requiring the registration of premises for the sale and storage of ice cream were issued during the period.

Two premises were registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted pressed, pickled or preserved food.

### MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Again, as found necessary, shops were visited during the year in connection with the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, and Orders made thereunder, concerning correct labelling of foods displayed for sale.

### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Nine licences to slaughter or stun animals were granted during 1960.

### RENT ACT, 1957

During the period 20 inspections were made for the purposes of the Act. Three Notices of Proposal to issue Certificates of Disrepair and three Certificates of Disrepair were served.

### WATER SAMPLING

Samples of Water were submitted to the Public Analyst and to the Public Health Laboratory Service during 1960, as follows :—

<i>Public Water Supply from</i>						C	B
Gathering Ground, Haseley (access points and land springs)						—	3
Reservoir, Hatton	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Well, Woodloes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Distribution mains	...	...	...	...	...	4	62
Miscellaneous Wells (Woodloes Area)						—	—
<i>Other Samples :—</i>							
Paddling Pool, St. Nicholas Park	...	...	...	...	...	—	14
Swimming Baths	„	...	...	...	...	—	7

C — submitted for chemical analysis.

B — submitted for bacteriological examination.

The results of samples of the public water supply showed that water as delivered at the taps in the town was safe and of good quality. Fairly extensive sampling was carried out over the year.

In addition to the water samples mentioned above, three samples were taken of the effluent from a small sewage disposal works discharging to a brook adjacent to the main gathering ground at Haseley. The samples showed that the effluent was satisfactory.

During the year under review reports were received that children were gathering a weed from a brook in the town. The weed was of a type of watercress and it was thought that it was being used for human consumption. As there was every reason to believe that the water in the brook was contaminated, cotton wool swabs were suspended in the run of the brook concerned for several days and were then submitted to the public analyst for his observations. The report showed that there was no cause for alarm.



## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The result of Court Proceedings during the period are as follows :—

<i>Situation of Premises</i>	<i>Nature of Complaint</i>	<i>Notice served under</i>	<i>Result</i>
54, Saltisford.	Contravention of Articles 6 & 8 of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 to 1957. (Bread containing insects).	Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 to 1957	Fined £25 plus £5 13s. 0d. costs.

In addition four warning letters were sent by the Town Clerk on the instructions of the Council to the persons contravening the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

## CONCLUSION

I again wish to thank the Council for their ready co-operation in seeking to raise the standard of environmental health conditions in the town. My thanks are also due to Chief Officers of other departments for helpful co-operation and to members of my staff for good work during another period when the demands upon the office have continued to be heavy.

Your obedient servant,

J. BULLOCK,  
Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Warwick.

TABLE I  
BOROUGH OF WARWICK

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT DURING 1960

	<i>Inspections and observations made</i>	<i>Notices served</i>		<i>Nuisances abated after notice</i>
		<i>Statutory 1960</i>	<i>Informal 1960</i>	
Dwellinghouses and Schools	...	3	245	166
Lodging Houses	...	—	—	—
Factories	...	—	4	8
Licensed Premises	...	—	4	4
Canal Boats	...	—	—	—
Water Closets	...	1	24	31
Drainage	...	5	19	46
Water Supply	...	—	—	2
Places of Entertainment	...	—	1	—
Caravans	...	—	3	4
Dustbins	...	—	1	5
Deposits of Refuse	...	—	7	10
Pigsties	...	—	—	1
Vermin Infestations	...	—	2	2
Shops	...	—	14	12
Animals Improperly Kept	...	—	2	2
Smoke Nuisances	...	—	6	4
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	—	1	3
Bakehouses	...	—	2	2
Slaughterhouses, Butchers' and Other Retail Food Shops	...	—	16	10
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises	...	—	—	—
Premises used for Food Preparation	...	—	23	19
Ice-cream Premises and Vehicles	...	—	3	3
Miscellaneous Nuisances	...	—	5	5
Hotels	...	—	—	2
Rent Act	...	—	—	—
TOTALS	5,337	9	382	341
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	...	...	...	1960
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	8
Samples of Water taken	...	...	...	—
Lots of Infected Bedding, Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	...	101
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	3
Houses Disinfested for Vermin	...	...	...	17
Improvement Grant Visits	...	...	...	27
	...	...	...	427

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1960  
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1951	15,550	235	15.1	3	12.8	189	12.2
1952	15,510	270	17.4	6	22.2	166	10.7
1953	15,620	238	15.2	3	12.6	171	10.9
1954	15,620	252	16.1	8	31.7	160	10.2
1955	15,670	220	14.0	6	22.2	175	11.2
1956	15 690	245	15.1	2	8.4	153	9.8
1957	15,810	200	12.5	—	20.3	174	11.0
1958	15,900	223	13.5	2	9.3	161	10.1
1959	15,870	210	13.2	5	23.8	195	12.3
1960	16,010	223	13.9	4	18.0	162	10.1

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1960.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1960.*  
*(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

		Live Births.	Still Births per 1,000 Births.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births	
England and Wales	...	13.9	11.6	10.1	18.0



TABLE III.

## BOROUGH OF WARWICK

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING  
THE YEAR 1960.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox ... ..									
Plague ... ..									
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup) ... ..									
Erysipelas ... ..	1						1		
Scarlet Fever ... ..	13		6	5	2				
Typhus Fever ... ..									
Enteric Fever ... ..									
Pneumonia ... ..	5			1	2		2		
Malaria ... ..									
Dysentery ... ..	9		5	3	1				
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..									
Meningococcal Infection ... ..									
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) ... ..									
Whooping Cough ... ..	33	3	11	18	1				
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..									
Measles ... ..	10	1	6	3					
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	8				2	2	4		
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	3				1	1	1		
Food Poisoning ... ..	2					1	1		
Totals ... ..	84	4	28	30	9	4	9		

TABLE IV.  
BOROUGH OF WARWICK  
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1960.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	1	—
2 Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease... ..	—	1
4 Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5 Whooping cough ... ..	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8 Measles ... ..	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	3	—
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2	—
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	4
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	8	10
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	—	—
16 Diabetes ... ..	—	—
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	19
18 Coronary disease, angina ... ..	9	10
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	3
20 Other heart disease ... ..	10	10
21 Other circulatory disease ... ..	4	3
22 Influenza ... ..	—	1
23 Pneumonia ... ..	3	9
24 Bronchitis... ..	5	1
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	1	—
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	2	—
29 Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31 Congenital malformations ... ..	1	1
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	8
33 Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	2
34 All other accidents ... ..	1	6
35 Suicide ... ..	3	3
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All causes ... ..	70	92













